

PHYSICIAN AND HEALTH CARE PROVIDER LOAN ASSISTANCE

The Physician and Health Care Provider Loan Assistance Programs are designed to provide incentives for physicians, dentists, nurse practitioners (NPs), physician assistants (PAs), dental hygienists (DH) and certified nurse midwives (CNMs) to locate their practice in Wisconsin's rural and urban medical shortage areas.

PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Physicians and dentists can receive up to \$50,000 and NPs, PAs, and CNMs can receive up to \$25,000 in loan repayment over a five year period at the following rate:
- In the first year, 10 percent of the principal balance or a maximum of \$5,000 for physicians and dentists, and \$2,500 for non-physicians.
- In the second year, 12.5 percent of the principal balance or a maximum of \$6,250 for physicians and dentists, and \$3,125 for non-physicians.
- In the third year, 15 percent of the principal balance or a maximum of \$7,500 for physicians and dentists, and \$3,750 for non-physicians.
- In the fourth year, 20 percent of the principal balance or a maximum of \$10,000 for physicians and dentists, and \$5,000 for non-physicians.
- In the fifth year, 42.5 percent of the principal balance or a maximum of \$21,250 for physicians and dentists, and \$10,625 for non-physicians.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Physicians and dentists who are board-eligible or board-certified in the specialties of Family Practice, General Internal Medicine, General Pediatrics, Obstetrics, and Psychiatry can participate in the program.
- DHs, PAs, NPs, and CNMs if they are licensed, have the appropriate certification, and will be practicing primary care in a primary-care setting.

ELIGIBLE PRACTICE SITES

Eligible practice sites are the health professional shortage areas (HPSAs) designated by the federal government. Other eligible sites include state-designated primary care shortage areas and obstetric shortage areas. These state sites are recommended for designation by the Rural Health Development Council, upon the advice of the UW Office of Rural Health, with final approval by the Department of Commerce (COMMERCE). Practice sites include high-need areas in both rural and urban areas.

For further information, contact Ben Sousa, Wisconsin Office of Rural Health, 608/263-9844 or (800) 385-0005..

